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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MAUREEN SAINT-GUILLEN, individually, and as Administratrix of the Estate of Imette Saint-Guillen, and the ESTATE OF IMETTE SAINT-GUILLEN,

8ction No.: 441

Plaintiffs,

COMPLAINT

PLAINTIFFS DEMAND A T]

MAUSKOPF, J. BY JURY

IN CLERK'S OFFICE U.S. DISTRICT COURT E

-against-

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendant.

Plaintiffs, Maureen Saint-Guillen, individually, and as Administratrix of the Estate of Imette Saint-Guillen, and the Estate of Imette Saint-Guillen, by and through their attorneys TACOPINA & ARNOLD, LLP, as and for their Complaint herein allege the following:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- This is an action arising under the Federal Tort Claims Act, §§ 1346(b), 1. 2671-2680.
- An administrative claim and an amended administrative claim have been 2. timely presented to the defendant (and its following agencies: the United States Department of Justice, the United States Probation and Pretrial Services System, and the United States District Courts) (hereinafter, collectively the "Defendant") and same have been denied by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts within the last six (6) months, and therefore this action has been timely commenced. (A copy of the initial claim and the denial thereof are annexed hereto and made a part hereof).
- The Defendant and/or its agents, servants and/or employees, were 3. negligent and/or committed wrongful acts and/or omissions to act which, had they been private persons, would make them liable to the Plaintiffs in accordance with/under New York State law.

- 4. The Plaintiffs have duly complied with all conditions precedent to the commencement of this action.
- 5. Venue in the Eastern District of New York is proper due to the fact that some or all of the Defendant's acts and/or omissions to act in the manner in which Darryl Littlejohn was supervised and/or monitored during his parole and/or probation and/or supervised release, and/or the Defendant's failure to communicate and/or coordinate with the New York State parole/probation agencies and/or officials occurred therein, as well as the fact that upon information and belief, Darryl Littlejohn unlawfully imprisoned, raped, tortured and murdered the decedent, Imette Saint-Guillen therein.

THE PARTIES

- 6. Imette Saint-Guillen was born on March 2, 1981.
- 7. Imette Saint-Guillen died on February 25, 2006.
- 8. On or about June 21, 2006, Plaintiff Maureen Saint-Guillen was issued Limited Letters of Administration appointing her Administratrix of the Goods, Chattels and Credits which were of her daughter Imette Saint-Guillen, deceased, by the Hon. Eve Preminger, Surrogate of the County of New York.
- 9. The United States of America is a federal constitutional republic comprising fifty states, one federal district and fourteen territories.
- 10. At all relevant times herein, the United States Department of Justice, the United States Probation and Pretrial Services System, and the United States District Courts were agencies of the judiciary branch of the United States of America's government established to assist the federal courts in the fair administration of justice, to protect the community and to bring about long-term positive change in individuals under supervision.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 11. Darryl Littlejohn was arraigned and plead guilty on March 26, 1999 in the United States District Court, Eastern District of New York for/to the charge of Bank Robbery by Force of Violence.
- District Court Senior Court Judge Jacob Mishler, to the custody of the Attorney General or his authorized representative to imprisonment for a period of 41 months. Specifically, said sentence was to be served in a state institution and said sentence was to run concurrently with a State Court sentence previously imposed. Darryl Littlejohn was to pay a special assessment of \$50 and, upon his release from imprisonment, was to be on supervised release for a term of 3 years.
- Said supervised release was to be under the supervision and control of the
 United States Probation and Pretrial Services System.
- 14. Pursuant to the Probation Act of 1925 and the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, the United States Probation and Pretrial Services officers are United States District Court employees and federal law enforcement officers and have a duty to supervise persons charged with or convicted of federal crimes. The core responsibility and/or duty of the United States Probation and Pretrial Services officers is to provide supervision in a way for the government to monitor the activities and behavior of people released to the community by the federal courts or paroling authorities that include, but are not limited to:
 - Working with offenders "post-conviction" after they are tried and found guilty
 of federal crimes and also after they are released from prison.
 - Ensuring that offenders released to the community obey the law rather than commit further crime.

- Supervising offenders in the community to reduce the risk they pose to the public.
- Supervising offenders who are sentenced to a term of probation by the court
 or who are on parole or supervised release after they are released from prison.
- Complying with the release conditions set by the court, and addressing any issues that affect offenders' ability to comply.
- Monitoring offenders through phone calls and personal contacts, including meeting with them in the probation or pretrial services office and at their homes or jobs.
- Monitoring offenders through contacting family members, employers, and treatment providers.
- Managing any risk offenders pose to individuals or the community by verifying their employment, monitoring their associates, restricting their travel, and taking other actions to make sure they are obeying the law.
- Ensuring that offenders comply with the conditions the court has set for their release to the community.
- Informing offenders of what the court expects of them.
- Meeting with offenders at home and work.
- Monitoring offenders' compliance with the conditions the court has set for their release.
- Controlling and correcting offenders if they do not comply with court orders.
- 15. Pursuant to the Probation Act of 1925 and the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984, release conditions are rules set by the court that offenders must follow if they want to

remain in the community. The court imposes release conditions to help structure the offender's actions and activities.

- 16. Darryl Littlejohn was released from imprisonment in 2004.
- 17. Upon his release, Darryl Littlejohn was declared a "menace to society".
- 18. Prior to his release, Darryl Littlejohn had a history of parole violations and violent felonies.
- 19. Prior to his release, federal authorities had been probing Darryl Littlejohn's involvement in multiple murders.
- 20. The Defendant failed to supervise Darryl Littlejohn as a result of a ministerial mistake of its procedures, thereby falling within the exemption to the Defendant's immunity.
- 21. The Defendant never attempted to supervise Darryl Littlejohn as a result of a ministerial mistake of its procedures, thereby falling within the exemption to the Defendant's immunity.
- 22. The Defendant never attempted to communicate/coordinate with the New York State probation/parole agencies and/or its officials as a result of a ministerial mistake of the Defendant's procedures, thereby falling within the exemption to the Defendant's immunity.
- 23. The Defendant's officials have admitted that they committed a ministerial mistake of its procedures when they failed to monitor even a single day of the post-prison release of Darryl Littlejohn.
- 24. Tony Garoppolo, Federal Chief of Probation for the Eastern District of New York, admitted, "we didn't know we had supervision because of a (clerical) error in the system."

- 25. Tony Garoppolo also admitted, "we've had no contact with him [Darryl Littlejohn] since 2000 when we did our pre-sentence report. It was human error on our part...and we are reforming the system to make this less likely to happen in the future."
- 26. On the late evening of February 24, 2006 into the early morning of February 25, 2006, Darryl Littlejohn was employed as an agent/servant and/or employee of 218 LaFayette Street Corp. d/b/a The Falls Bar as a bouncer/security/doorman, despite all of the above.
- 27. On February 24 and February 25, 2006, Darryl Littlejohn was supposed to be under the supervision of the Defendant, and his employment at the Falls Bar was a violation of the conditions of his release.
- 28. Upon information and belief, on February 25, 2006, Imette Saint-Guillen was, *inter alia*, assaulted, kidnapped, raped, tortured and murdered by Darryl Littlejohn, after she came into contact with him at the Falls Bar.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 29. Pursuant to Rule 10(c), Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation of paragraphs 1 through 28 of the Complaint as if incorporated and reiterated herein.
- 30. Plaintiffs' claim for relief is pursuant to the Federal Tort Claims Act, which provides that the "United States shall be liable, respecting the provisions of this title relating to tort claims, in the same manner and to the same extent as a private individual under like circumstances"
- 31. Plaintiffs bring this claim for relief against the United States for monetary damages for injury or loss of property or personal injury or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of any employee of the Government while acting within the scope of his office or employment, under circumstances where the United States, if a private person,

would be liable to the plaintiff in accordance with the law of the place where the act or omission occurred.

- 32. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant, and/or its agents, servants and/or employees had a duty to supervise Darryl Littlejohn, and persons such as Darryl Littlejohn, in a safe and reasonable manner, and to take all steps necessary to protect the safety of the public at large, including but not limited to the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen.
- 33. At all times relevant hereto, Defendant, and/or its agents, servants and/or employees in a careless, negligent, grossly negligent, reckless and/or deliberately indifferent manner, and in violation of the order of a United States District Court Judge, breached its duty to the public at large, including but not limited to the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen, in failing to supervise Darryl Littlejohn.
- 34. As a result of the breach of duty by Defendant, and/or its agents, servants and/or employees, the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen sustained severe, brutal and conscience-shocking injuries, both mental and physical, conscious pain and suffering and was aware of her impending death.
- 35. The actions and/or inactions of Defendant and/or its agents, servants and/or employees as set forth, directly increased the vulnerability of the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen to danger and/or otherwise placed her in harm's way and/or constituted a breach of the Defendant's duty that is shocking to the conscience.
- 36. The severe, brutal and conscience-shocking injuries, both mental and physical, conscious pain and suffering, and awareness of the impending death of the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen, were reasonably foreseeable consequences of the careless, negligent,

grossly negligent, reckless and/or deliberately indifferent actions and/or inactions of Defendant and/or its agents, servants and/or employees.

- 37. The carelessness, negligence, gross negligence, and reckless and/or deliberately indifferent actions and/or inactions of Defendant and/or its agents, servants and/or employees, were the proximate cause of the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen's severe, brutal and conscience-shocking injuries, both mental and physical, conscious pain and suffering, and awareness of her impending death.
- 38. The breach of duty set forth above of Defendant and/or its agents, servants and/or employees was the result of admittedly clerical and/or ministerial breaches of the Defendant's own policies and/or procedures, and/or in the negligent hiring, training, supervision and/or retention of its agents, servants, and/or employees.
- 39. As a result of the foregoing, Plaintiff Maureen Saint-Guillen, individually, and as Administratrix of the Estate of Imette Saint-Guillen, and/or the Estate of Imette Saint-Guillen have been damaged in a sum to be determined at trial, but believed to be in excess of one-hundred million (\$100,000,000.00) dollars.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 40. Pursuant to Rule 10(c), Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation of paragraphs 1 through 39 of the Complaint as if incorporated and reiterated herein.
- 41. At the time of her assault, kidnap, rape and torture, the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen was in good physical health, productive, in possession of all of her faculties and gainfully employed.
- 42. As a result of the above, the decedent Imette Saint-Guillen died as a result of her injuries on February 25, 2006.
 - 43. The decedent Imette Saint-Guillen is survived by her mother and family.

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44. The decedent Imette Saint-Guillen's heirs at law and next of kin sustained

pecuniary loss as a result of her death, including but not limited to, the loss of maintenance,

support, comfort, society, companionship, consortium and services.

45. As a result of the foregoing, Plaintiff Maureen Saint-Guillen, individually,

and as Administratrix of the Estate of Imette Saint-Guillen, and/or the Estate of Imette Saint-

Guillen have been damaged in a sum to be determined at trial, but believed to be in excess of

one-hundred million (\$100,000,000.00) dollars.

DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL

Pursuant to Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs hereby

demand a jury trial of all issues capable of being determined by a jury.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against the Defendant as follows:

a) On the first cause of action, actual damages in an amount to be determined

at trial, but believed to be in excess of one-hundred million

(\$100,000,000,00) dollars; and

b) On the second cause of action, actual damages in an amount to be

determined at trial, but believed to be in excess of one-hundred million

(\$100,000,000.00) dollars.

Dated: New York, New York

January 30, 2008

TACOPINA & ARNOLD, LLP

By:

JOSEPH TACOPINA (JT-2661)

Attorneys for the Plaintiffs

275 Madison Avenue – 35th Floor

New York, New York 10016

(212) 883-8833

Lage 1:08-cv							
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Joseph Tacobina

DEATH TRANSCRIPT

OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE Certificate No. 156-06-009130 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH AND MENTAL HYGIENE 1. DECEDENT'S 3/1/2006 11:15:30 PM ST. GUILLEN IMETTE **LEGAL NAME** (Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name) 2d. Name of hospital or other facility (if not facility, street address) 2a. New York City 2c. Type of Place 4 - Nursing Home/Long Term Care Facility Intersection Of Fountain & Seaview Avenues 5 Li Hospice Facility 1 - Hospital Inpatient 2b. Barough 6 Li Decedent's Residence 2 - Emergency Dept /Outpatient Death Brooklyn 7 A Other Specify Street 3 - Dead on Arrival 5. OCME Case No. 4. Sex (Year-yyyy) 3b. Time _I AM (Month) (Day) Date and Time of Death K-06-01063 Female 2006 8:34 M PN 25 Found Dead February a. Immediate cause Asphyxla By Compression Of Neck And Occlusion Of Mouth And Nose N S E b. Due to or as a o F c. Due to or as a Đ Other significant conditions contributing to death but not resulting in the underlying cause given in Part I, Include operation information. PART I 7d. Place of Injury - At home, factory, street etc. 7c Al Work 7b. Time a. Injury Date (mm J AM 1 🌙 Yes Unknown 7e. Location Unknown I DAA 2 4 No 71. How Injury Occurred See Above ind/or investigation, in my opinion, death occurred due to 10. On the basis of examination the causes and manner as 9. Autopsy 8. Manner of Death g. If Transportation Injury Specify ☐ Pending further study 2 Yes 🗎 Driver/Operator 🗕 Pedestrian Certifier Signature ☐ Natural 39 Homicide □ No Autopsy Kristin Roman LI Passencer Pursuant to Lav □ Accident □ Suicide □ Undetermined Certifier Name (Print) Medical Examiner □ No Autopsy Other Specify 11e. Inside City Limits' ZIP Code 11d. Street and Number 11c. City or Town 11b. County i ta Usual Residence State 02115 Suffolk Boston 18 Franc Street Under 1 Year Under 1 Day 13. Age at last birthday 12. Date of Birth (Month) (Year-yyyy) (Day) (years) 029 - 62 2 1981 24 15b. Kind of business or industry 15a Usual Occupation (Type of work done during most of working life. Imette Carmela St Do not use "retired") Paralegal Graduate Student College 18. Education (Check the box that best describes the highest degree or level of school completed at the time 17. Birthplace (City & State or Foreign Country) 4 J Some college credit, but no degree 7 J Master's degree (e.g., MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA) 1 Li 8th grade or less, none 8 - Doctorate (e.g. PhD. EdD) or 5 Ll Associate degree (e.g. AA, AS) 2 - 19th-12th grade no diploma 3 U High school graduate or GED & Bachelor's degree (e.g. BA, AB 8S)

Professional degree (e.g. MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD) Boston, MA 21. Surviving Spouse's Name (If wife, name prior to first marriage) (First, Middle, Last) 20. Marital Status at Time of Death 19. Ever in U.S. Armed Forces? 1 ☐ Married 3 ☐ Married but separated 5 ☐ Widowed 2 ☐ Divorced 4 ★Never married 6 ☐ Unknown 1 (1 Yes عرف No 23. Mother's Maiden Name (Prior to first marriage) (First, Middle, Last) 22. Father's Name (First, Middle, Last) Maureen St. Hilaire Seimundo Guillen ZIP Code) 24c. Address (Street and Number City & State 24b. Relationship to Decedent 24a. Informant's Name 18 Francis Stréet Boston, MA Maureen St. Mother Guillen 25b. Place of Disposition (Name of cemetery, crematory, other place) 25a. Method of Disposition 4 - City Cemetery 3 - Entombment Forest Hills Crematory 1 J Burial 2 🔀 Cremation 5 2 Other Specify 25d. Date of 25c. Location of Disposition (City & State or Foreign Country) 03/04/2006 Boston, MA City & State 26b Address (Street and Number 26a. Funeral Establishment 43 Cummins Hwy Roslindale, Boston, Hearn Funeral Home

VR 16 (Rev. 01 00)

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a record on file in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Department of eon: as no inquiry as to the facts has been provided by larger

Steven P. Schwartz, Ph.D., City Registrar

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DATE ISSUED March 1, 2006

V142024

T-134 P.011/011 F-933

Surrogate's Court of the County of New York

LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION The People of the State of New York

Index#2006-2002

To Maureen M Saint Guillen, send greetings:

WHEREAS, Imerce St Guillen AKA Imerce Carmela St Guillen, Imerce C

Saint Guillen died intestate on February 25, 2006, and
WHEREAS the decree of this court made June 21, 2006 directed the
issuance to you of lefters OF ADMINISTRATION with the limited power
however as indicated in the margin hereof upon your qualifying

NOW, THEREFORE, KNOW YE that you ste hereby authorized to administer the estate of the said deceased surject to the jurisdiction and supervision of this court.

RESTRICTIONS These letters authorize the collection only of a total of \$4000.00 dollars. Any collection above that amount must be authorized by further order of the surrogate These letters with respect to the cause of action are limited to the fower to prosecute and confer no power to compremise the action of less are serviced and confer judgment until surther order of the courts.

WITNESS, Hon Renge R Mich Surregare the County of New York, this June 22, 2006.

ne Passerant

Clerk of the Surrogately

Attention is called to the provisions of Sec. 11-1.6 of Estates, Powers and Trusts Law and Sec. 719 of Surrogate's Court Procedure Act, which make it a misdemeaner and a cause for removal for an executor, administrator, trustee or quardian to deposit or invest estate funds in his individual account. his individual account or name. All estate funds must be deposited in the name of the executor, administrator, trustee or guardian in his or her representative capacity and to the credit of the estate.

^{*} THIS ORIGINAL LETTER IS NOT VALID WITHOUT A RAISED SEAL OF THE COURT *



DEGENVED

JAMES C. DUFF Director

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS

WILLIAM R. BURCHILL, JR. Associate Director and General Counsel

JILL.C. SAYENGA Deputy Director

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

ROBERT K. LOESCHE Deputy General Counsel

October 15, 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REOUESTED

Christopher G. Lang, Esq.
The Law Office of Christopher G. Lang
1842 Centre Street
West Roxbury, MA 02132

Dear Mr. Lang:

This will serve as formal notification that the Administrative Office of the United States Courts has denied in full your client's tort claim dated August 24, 2006, for \$100,000,000.00 arising from alleged actions of the United States Probation Office of the Eastern District of New York in the course of supervising Darryl Littlejohn, a/k/a Johnathan Blaze.

It is this agency's conclusion that, because this claim arises from actions by the court in imposing probation upon Mr. Littlejohn, and by the United States Probation Office in supervising Mr. Littlejohns's release, both of which are functions integral to the judicial process, the claim may not be settled under authority of the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2671-2680. The United States may assert judicial immunity from liability, when that immunity would be available to the federal officer or employee whose conduct gives rise to the claim, 28 U.S.C.§ 2674.

You have not proven negligence on the part of a federal officer or employee that could give rise to tort liability under state law. 28 U.S.C. § 2672. To the extent your client alleges violations to her constitutional rights, her claims are excluded from the coverage of the Federal Tort Claims Act. 28 U.S.C. § 2679(b)(2).

Christopher G. Lang, Esq. Page 2

I am required by regulations of the Department of Justice to advise you that, if you are dissatisfied with this agency's disposition of this claim, you have the right to file suit in an appropriate United States district court within six months of the date of mailing of this notification.

Sincerely,

John Chartain

John L. Chastain

Assistant General Counsel

cc: Helen H. Krapels Khlayer Sowell